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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
ITC-01 SP-02 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04
TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
USIE-00 /088 W
----------251856Z 107305 /50
O P 251711Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3368
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS PRIORITY 3334
USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 02943

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD, EEC
SUBJECT: UNCTAD COMMON FUND - DUTCH PREPARED TO BREAK EC RANKS

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 2744, (B) EC BRUSSELS 2447

1. DUTCH PERMDEL OFFICIAL INFORMS US THAT THE DUTCH GOVERN-
MENT HAS SENT A LETTER TO ALL EC PERMDELS INDICATING THAT IT
CAN NO LONGER SUPPORT THE EC JOINT OPENING POSITION FOR THE
GENEVA COMMON FUND (CF) NEGOTIATIONS. (SEE REF. B.) DUTCH
OFFICIALS SAY THAT THIS POSITION IS NO LONGER RELEVANT FOR THE
GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS. THE DUTCH LETTER ASKS THAT THE EC POSI-
TION BE MODIFIED TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING POINTS: (1) ACCEPTANCE
OF THE PRINCIPLE OF JOINT FINANCING OF BUFFER STOCKS OF INTER-
NATIONAL COMMODITY AGREEMENTS; (2) ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES
OF A CF; (THE TYPE OF CF IS NOT MENTIONED); AND (3) AN
INDICATION OF EC AND MEMBER STATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO A CF;
THE DUTCH ARE READY TO MAKE SUCH A CONTRIBUTION BUT
THEY HAVE NOT SPECIFIED THE AMOUNT). DUTCH OFFICIALS
HERE SAY THE THIRD POINT IS NEGOTIABLE BUT THE OTHER
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TWO ARE NOT.

2. DUTCH PERMDEL OFFICIALS SAY THATIF THE NINE DO NOT
AGREE TO THESE POINTS THEY PLAN TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS
SEPARATELY AT GENEVA. EC PERMDEL OFFICIALS DO NOT KNOW
WHEN THE MEMBER STATES MIGHT DISCUSS THE DUTCH POINTS.
THE ROME EUROPEAN COUNCIL MIGHT TAKE THEM UP ON MARCH

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25-26. COREPER MIGHT HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING ON
MARCH28, BUT THIS IS NOT YET DECIDED.

3. THE DUTCH PRESUMABLY ARE MORALLY BOUND TO GIVE
THE OTHER MEMBER STATES A CHANCE TO REACH A REVISED JOINT POSITION
BEFORE BREAKING RANKS. PERMDEL OFFICIALS SAY THAT THEY
WOULD PREFER TO DELAY A COREPER MEETING UNTIL THE
REGULAR THURSDAY, MARCH 31 MEETING. THE DELAY MIGHT
ENABLE THE EC TO PRESERVE ITS UNITY A BIT LONGER, BUT
THE DUTCH MIGHT NOT ABIDE BY THIS TACTIC. FRG PERMDEL
OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE EC CANNOT POSSIBLY AGREE TO THE
DUTCH THREE POINTS AND THE DUTCH ARE EXPECTED TO GO
THEIR OWN WAY VERY SOON.
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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